



# Department of Justice

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## **UNITED STATES ATTORNEY ANNOUNCES CONVICTION, SENTENCING OF LOCAL WOMAN FOR EMBEZZLEMENT**

*Hogsett says former church bookkeeper stole more than \$138,000 from Muncie church*

### **PRESS RELEASE**

INDIANAPOLIS – Joseph H. Hogsett, the United States Attorney, announced today that Angela Linder, age 42, of Yorktown, has been sentenced by U.S. District Judge Tanya Walton Pratt to 17 months in prison and has been ordered to repay \$138,000 in loss. This comes after Linder entered a plea of guilty to wire fraud charges related to a scheme involving a local church.

“Greed is not a Hoosier value, and we will not tolerate a culture of fraud and corruption in our state,” said Hogsett. “That is why the U.S. Attorney’s Office has redoubled efforts to hold accountable those who steal from their employers or the taxpayers..”

Linder was an accounting administrator with the local church from February 2001 through May 17, 2010. During that period of time, she was charged with handling payroll, tax return preparation, and other administrative duties. She also handled church credit card accounts, including the payment of monthly balances.

Linder has admitted that beginning in 2003, she engaged in a scheme to defraud the church in a variety of ways. This included fraudulent credit card purchases, the writing of fraudulent checks on church accounts, the payment of inflated wages to Linder from church accounts, and the abuse of a charitable fund setup for victims of a fire. This fraudulently obtained money was used to pay for meals, vacations, clothing, home improvement projects, medical expenses and dozens of other personal purchases.

This prosecution comes as Hogsett has made it a priority of the U.S. Attorney’s Office to aggressively combat corruption and fraud in central and southern Indiana. The case was the result of an investigation by the United States Secret Service and the Indiana State Police.

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